

# Fire Prevention Week • October 5–11, 2008

## Dear Parent or Caregiver:

When asked where your child is safest, most people would likely think in their own home. But according to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), there were nearly 400,000 home fires in 2006 alone. Even scarier, home fires caused 80% of civilian deaths and 76% of injuries.

The leading causes of home fires are things you do everyday — cooking, heating and using electricity to power your home. That's why NFPA has chosen the theme "Prevent Home Fires" for this year's Fire Prevention Week, from October 5–11.

In the classroom, lessons will focus on ways to prevent the leading causes of home fires and home fire deaths. Use this checklist with your family to search for fire hazards in your home and correct any dangerous situations.

It is important that your children have the tools they need to be safe at school and at home. By putting into action Fire Prevention Week messages, you can help protect your home, and even more importantly, your family.

**CHECK OUT:**  
**firepreventionweek.org**  
**sparky.org**

## Prevent Home Fires



### Fire Safety Checklist

- ☐ Does a grown-up always stay in the kitchen when food is being fried, grilled or broiled?
- ☐ Is your stovetop free of clutter?
- ☐ Are space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn?
- ☐ Does a grown-up turn off portable space heaters when they leave the room or go to sleep?
- ☐ Do fireplaces have a sturdy screen to catch sparks?
- ☐ Is your heating equipment cleaned and inspected every year?
- ☐ Are electrical cords in good condition?
- ☐ Are matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet?
- ☐ Are there working smoke alarms on every level, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area?
- ☐ Does your family have a fire escape plan with 2 ways out of every room in the home?



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